

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 51 are pending in the application and stand rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,263,019 issued to Chu. Applicant has amended Claim 1 and respectfully request reconsideration and full allowance of all pending claims.

Chu discloses an echo canceling device having an adjustable filter for receiving a loud speaker signal and generating an echo estimation signal based on the relative strength of the loudspeaker signal compared with the microphone signal. An electronic search of Chu indicates no reference to the terms “distort” or “distortion.”

Claim 1 as amended recites, in part, “a distortion module receiving the first audio signal, the distortion module adapted to model the distortion of the first audio signal and produce a distorted signal.”

Claim 22 recites, in part, “modeling one or more types of distortions on the first audio signal to produce a distorted audio signal.”

Claim 35 recites, in part, “a distortion module receiving the first signal and adapted to modify the first signal to model a type of distortion to produce a distorted signal.”

Applicant respectfully submits that Chu cannot anticipate any of independent Claims 1, 22 and 35 because Chu fails to teach, disclose or suggest any modeling of distortion. Chu is little more than a conventional acoustic echo cancellation device as described by Applicant’s background. In contrast, Applicant’s invention relates to correcting for distortion in an echo, such as non-linear noise effects that result from conversion of an audio signal into sound by an imperfect loud speaker. The Examiner’s rejections based on Chu are not understood since Chu fails to address distortion in any manner. For example, the Examiner’s rejections of dependent Claims 8 and 9 are not understood since Chu makes no mention of a model dealing with specific factors that introduce non-linear distortion. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 22 and 35 are allowable, as are Claims 2-21, 23-34 and 36-51 which depend from Claims 1, 22 and 35 respectively.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via facsimile to the USPTO on January 20, 2004.

  
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205-2004  
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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